

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Plans)

VIA: Chief, CI Staff  
Chief, FI Staff

SUBJECT: Proposed Visit of General Reinhard Gehlen,  
President of the BND

1. This memorandum contains two recommendations in paragraphs 10 and 11 which require approval by the DD/P.

2. General Gehlen has visited the United States on many occasions at the invitation of CIA. His last official visit took place in April 1961. Since then the retirement of Mr. Allen W. Dulles and the Felte case have occurred and it is our belief that these events have led General Gehlen to suspect that the previous close relationship with CIA may have changed to some degree. General Gehlen felt he had a particular personal relationship with Mr. Dulles which allowed him to address himself to Mr. Dulles through a privileged channel when he felt the need for Mr. Dulles' counsel and advice. This channel was often used by Chancellor Adenauer as well and created a sense of particular trust and confidence. Mr. Dulles' retirement and the arrest of Felte occurred almost simultaneously. Concomitant with the revelations of the depth of compromise caused by the Felte case, a cut-back in our personnel in direct liaison with the BND in Munich took place. This reduction had been previously planned and was not connected with the Felte case. All of these events together seem to have created the impression in the mind of General Gehlen and some of his senior staff members that a fundamental change in CIA's attitude toward the BND had occurred and that the BND and its intelligence product are no longer as significant for CIA as in previous periods.

3. There do exist problems in regard to the internal security of the BND and to the quality of BND's product but in our view CIA must, while observing appropriate security restrictions, continue its liaison relationship with the intelligence service of the Federal Republic and should if at all possible retain the most favored relationship which

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we have continued to enjoy generally even after the legalization of the Organization Gehlen in February 1956 and which provides a window to the Federal German Government and its activities as well as a channel for exercising influence.

4. We therefore feel that an invitation to General Gehlen to visit the United States in the late spring or early fall of 1963 is in the interest of CIA and our liaison objectives. Such a visit with its customary and unchanged VIP treatment and the opportunity to meet with the DCI and DDCI and other senior CIA officers should go a long way to reassure General Gehlen that CIA's basic attitude toward him and his organization as such have not changed although we would leave no doubt as to the pressing need for the continuation of the vigorous pursuit of tightening BRD personnel security. General Gehlen has met the DCI on one previous occasion in Frankfurt/Main in the company of Mr. Dulles in November 1961, but he has never met the DDCI.

5. The substantive agenda would include briefings for General Gehlen on topics proposed by him, the German Station and Headquarters. We would be particularly interested in exploring with him ways and means by which the BRD could increase its contribution of military intelligence on the Warsaw Pact Forces. We would further want to discuss with him aspects of our computer program and the exchange in machine language of non-sensitive counter-intelligence information held by his service and CIA. Such an exchange requires compatible systems. It is believed General Gehlen would be receptive to such a proposal, which would be further pursued by the German Station. We also propose to make arrangements to show General Gehlen Cape Canaveral and Vandenberg Air Force Base. During his last visit in April 1961 General Gehlen visited SAC Headquarters in Omaha which resulted in a much better appreciation by General Gehlen of United States military preparedness and capabilities. We therefore believe that visits to Cape Canaveral and Vandenberg Air Force Base would update General Gehlen's views on United States military capabilities.

6. Biographic data on General Gehlen is contained in Attachment A.

7. It is our intention when extending the invitation to General Gehlen to state that we would also welcome a visit by General [ ] at the same time. General [ ] is chief of Auswertung (Evaluations) in the BND and has a position comparable to the DDI in our organization. General [ ] has always been particularly interested in a close exchange of views between his and our organizations and a continued discussion of problems of mutual interest. Under his leadership the evaluations section of the BND has become considerably more flexible in its analysis and evaluation of the intelligence product of the BND. General [ ]'s close connections to policy levels in the German Foreign Office and his pro-American attitude make him quite useful as a window into German thinking and a receptive partner to accept and pass on American views on specific situations.

8. Biographic data on General [ ] is attached as Attachment B.

9. It is conceivable that General Gehlen would desire to bring with him one other officer from his staff. The identity of such a person could only be determined after the invitation to General Gehlen is issued.

10. If the DD/P concurs, C/RE would like to extend the invitation personally to General Gehlen on the occasion of his TTY to Germany in March. Permission to do so is hereby requested. It is felt that late May or early June would be the most appropriate time for the visit to take place. It is anticipated the visit would be of two weeks duration and would include a full five day work week to allow time for substantive briefings and discussions. The remaining week would be spent in travel to Florida and California.

11. The basic cost of the visit will be financed from Project HELAURITE funds contained in sub project UJDRACO. However, authority is requested to expend up to \$1500.00 from Headquarters OOA funds to cover representational costs while General Gehlen is our guest in Washington.

12. It is planned that [ ] would serve as CIA escort officer during the course of the visit. Both Generals Gehlen and [ ] would travel in mufti. They shun publicity and their previous travels to the United States have not created security problems of any type. Brigadier General [ ], the BND permanent representative in Washington, would serve as the BND escort officer.

David E. Murphy  
Chief  
Eastern Europe Division

Attachments: A. Biographic Data on General Gehlen  
B. Biographic Data on General [ ]

*destroyed*

CONCURRENCES:

Chief, CI

Chief, FI

APPROVED:

Deputy Director (Plans)

Date

cc: C/CI, w/att  
C/FI, w/att

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